

Drivers of Change

Networks will link the world. Everyone will have access to the global commercial industrial base and much of the same technology as the US military. Increased availability of commercial satellites, digital communications, and the public Internet give our adversaries new capabilities at a relatively low cost.

The future is in collaboration and shared information. We must be prepared to "win" across the full range of military operations in any part of the world; to operate with multinational forces; and to coordinate military operations, as necessary, with other government agencies and international organizations. Sharing information and collaboration are critical.

Agility and adaptability ensure a competitive advantage. Asymmetric approaches and the focus on development of niche capabilities by our adversaries will increase. By developing and using approaches that avoid US strengths and exploit potential vulnerabilities using significantly different methods of operation, adversaries will attempt to create conditions that effectively delay, deter, or counter the application of US military capabilities.

New concepts must be encouraged.

Future competitors will adapt as our capabilities evolve. We have superior conventional warfighting capabilities and effective nuclear deterrence today, but this current military balance is not guaranteed to last.

Our people must be empowered to create the future.

Our competitive advantage in the Information Age will come from the ability of our people to adapt their organizations and processes to leverage the capability provided by rapidly advancing information technologies.

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